

Diocese of Saskatoon
Diocesan Council Meeting
ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH HALL
10 GROSVENOR CRESCENT, SASKATOON, SK
Saturday, February 7, 2009
10:00 am – 3:30 pm

MINUTES

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Rodney Andrews
The Rev. Don Byrt
The Rev. Canon Jim Halmarson
The Ven. Dan Hughes
The Rev. Sheila Martin
The Rev. Dianne Mesh
The Rev. Ann Marie Nicklin
The Rev. Peter Norman
The Rev. Alex Parsons
The Rev. Debbie Ramage
The Very Rev. Terry Wiebe

Recording Secretary: Ms. Shauna Milner

LAITY

Mr. Rick Barsky
Mr. Ken Bos
Mr. Barrie Broad
Mr. Peter Coolen
Canon Lorea Eufemia
Mrs. Lillian Fleck
Mrs. Elaine Hrycenko
Ms. Wilma Miller
Mrs. Mercedes Montgomery
Dr. Arne Paus-Jenssen
Mr. Monty Zadorozny
Mrs. Charmaine Zevena

Presenters:

Bishop Tom Morgan, Mrs. Margie Gruber, & Mrs. Mary Ann Assailly – PWRDF Refugee Sponsorship Project
Mr. Jerry Keeley – Camp Okema

Regrets for absence were received from:

CLERGY

The Very Rev. Glen Burgomaster
The Rev. Canon Michael Stonhouse
The Ven. Peter Yeung

LAITY

Canon Beth Bilson
Mrs. Margaret Cooke
Mr. Don Coomber
Ms. Lauren Jardine
Dr. Michael MacGregor
Mr. Scott Owens
Mr. Chris Wood

Absent:

Mr. Nicholas Krenn

Late Arrival:

The Very Rev. Terry Wiebe

Early Departure:

Canon Lorea Eufemia

Bishop Andrews welcomed members. The meeting opened with prayer and reflections led by Bishop Andrews.

It was established that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 10:09 am.

Bishop Andrews welcomed new Diocesan Council members the Rev. Dianne Mesh of St. James' Parish and Mr. Rick Barsky of Good Shepherd Parish.

TAB 1. Review and adoption of agenda

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY**

MOTION 1

Hughes/Fleck

That the agenda be adopted be as circulated.

CARRIED.

TAB 2. Adoption of Minutes of Diocesan Council November 15, 2008

MOTION 2

Parsons/Broad

That the minutes of the Diocesan Council meeting on November 15, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

TAB 3. Reports and Correspondence

3.1 Bishop's Report – Rodney Andrews

Bishop Andrews informed Council Members that he has not done much parish travel due to a shorter reporting time and winter weather. From February until the end of November, he is scheduled to visit each parish twice.

Bishop Andrews referred to a letter of thanks to St. James' Anglican Church, Orillia, Ontario that was included in his report. St. James' donated \$1000 to our diocese for travelling expenses for rural ministry. The Bishop made a presentation at St. James' Anglican Church in October 2008.

The Rev. Caroline Pinchbeck, a priest from England who specializes in rural ministry, will be visiting the Lintlaw/Endeavour Parish in April-May, 2009.

Mr. Quenton Little will serve as a student minister for Lintlaw/Endeavour from June through August, 2009.

Bishop Andrews is celebrating his 45th anniversary as deacon and 5th Anniversary as bishop in February, 2009. He is taking a sabbatical for July 2009 and vacation in August, 2009. He is hoping to serve "On Eagle's Wings" by flying Summer Bible School teams to and from their destinations for his sabbatical.

3.2 Secretary Treasurer's Report – Canon Lorea Eufemia

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY**

Canon Eufemia reported that the sale of the Unity rectory is complete. Unity Central Parish has invested the money in GIC's until repairs take place in each of the church properties.

The approved 2009 budget, stipends, travel rates and housing allowance forms have been distributed to the parishes.

The extended health and dental rates were distributed. Due to low claims made in 2008, rates remain unchanged for both active and retired members.

Year end reporting forms have been sent to all parishes. We are awaiting the return of parish financial statements and Fair Share Levy calculations.

Suncorp valuation reports were completed in early December and forwarded to the insurer. Only St. John's Cathedral required a further review by Suncorp and the insurer.

Our broker, Elliott Insurance, advised that due to good claims history and the risk evaluation done in 2007/2008 our churches are considered low risk and an increase in insurance rates was not warranted. It was clarified that some parishes may have had small increases in premiums. This is attributed to increases in either building values or an increase in value of fixtures and equipment.

The Residential School Fund has been distributed as directed by council to St. Luke's Ministry Trust fund. The trustees of the fund made a \$20,000 donation to the diocese to support the Hospital Chaplaincy Ministry for 2008.

Three parishes have not confirmed their Fair Share Levy. Unity Central Parish is only able to commit to half of their FSL. Parkland Parish has indicated they will not be able to meet their request of \$12,212. Their notice is included in decision item 4.8.

An extensive review of Porcupine Plain Parish's Fair Share Levy since implementation in 1997 shows they overpaid more than \$8,000. A letter has been sent to the parish by Bishop Andrews to discuss future options of repayment.

The Synod office is replacing the photocopier as the unit has been discontinued and parts availability is limited. The new machine can scan, fax, print, collate and staple. This will result in a savings of consumables.

MOTION 3

Zadorozny/Bos

That Diocesan Council receive the Secretary Treasurer's report as presented.

CARRIED.

MOTION 4Paus-Jenssen/Eufemia

That Diocesan Council defer discussion on Report Item 3.3 and 3.3.1 to Decision Item 4.1 and 4.2.

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY****CARRIED.****3.4 Constitution and Canons Committee**

Council members were requested to carefully review the proposed changes to the regulations and to come prepared to discuss them at the next Diocesan Council meeting. All members are asked to bring a copy of the proposed regulations to the next meeting of Diocesan Council.

All Members

MOTION 5Nicklin/Montgomery

That Diocesan Council receive the Constitution and Canons report as presented.

CARRIED.**3.5 Eastern Deanery Report – The Rev. Sheila Martin**

The Rev. Sheila Martin informed Council members that not much has changed in the Eastern Deanery. Clergy have not met during the winter because of poor road conditions. All Saints' Anglican Church, Watrous is preparing for their 100th anniversary celebration in July of 2009.

3.6 Saskatoon Deanery Report – The Rev. Debbie Ramage

The Rev. Debbie Ramage reported that Saskatoon Deanery clergy have been meeting monthly, however, they will not meet in February as they will be together at the clergy retreat.

A clergy and spouse gathering is being planned.

The Rev. John Seib has been appointed deacon in charge of St. Matthew's Parish and Mr. and Mrs. Brian and Wilma Woods have been appointed lay pastors of Good Shepherd Parish.

3.7 Western Deanery Report – The Rev. Ann Marie Nicklin

Council members reviewed the Western Deanery Report. Biggar Parish is progressing towards more formal arrangements for joint ministry of the Presbyterian, Anglican, and Lutheran Churches (P.A.L.'s).

Meridian parish is active and doing well.

3.8 “Turning Hope into Action” Implementation Task Force – The Rev. Peter Norman

The strategic planning process began back in 2005 with a consultation process led by Ms. Suzanne Lawson. Suzanne facilitated the diocesan focus group development of “Turning Hope into Action.” This “blueprint” was adopted at Diocesan Synod 2008.

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY**

At the end of January 2009, fifteen people from the Diocese gathered to further discuss the plan with Canon Geoff Jackson, Mr. Robert Waller, and Ms. Suzanne Lawson.

The Rev. Peter Norman, chair of the “Turning Hope into Action” Implementation Task Force, advised that the team includes: Mrs. Kathy Lucko, the Rev. Debbie Ramage, Mr. Peter Coolen, and the Very Rev. Terry Wiebe (*ex-officio*). To date they have met three times, though they were slow in starting, they now have a sense of urgency to get plans in place.

The task force will launch an event that will focus on the “Mission” priority of “*Turning Hope into Action*”. The intent of a planned Mission Conference is to motivate, to inspire, and to put practical resources into people’s hands. The working title for the Conference is “Starting Now” based on 2 Corinthians 6:2. The event will be held June 19-21 with Friday evening at the Cathedral and interactive seminars on Saturday at a venue yet to be decided. The closing service will be Sunday morning at the Cathedral. Child care will be provided throughout the weekend to enable couples to attend. The Conference will coincide with a diocesan youth event in Saskatoon that will allow the youth to come and to share stories from their experiences of the weekend.

The task force commented that they would prefer to be called a “team” and not a “task force”.

All members
correct
correspondence
to show “team”

3.9 Future Directions Task Force – The Rev. Canon Michael Stonhouse

The Future Directions Task Force has not met because their work is related to the efforts of the Implementation Task Force. The members of the task force are the Rev. Amy Bunce, Mrs. Mary-Jean Dewald, the Rev. Canon Jim Halmarson, the Rev. Alex Parsons, the Rev. John Seib, Ms. Anita Verlangen, and the Rev. Canon Michael Stonhouse (chair).

Canon Halmarson reported that a group is meeting February 17 to consider a branding/logo as well as to determine how information will be communicated in the diocese. The group includes the Rev. John Seib, the Rev. Ann Marie Nicklin, Mr. Peter Coolen, Ms. Danielle Turple, and the Rev. Canon Jim Halmarson.

The Rev. Ann Marie Nicklin and the Rev. Alex Parsons are working on “twinning” and partnering the rural and urban parishes. Twinning is about providing mutual support and resource sharing between parishes. Currently the National Church of Canada does not have staff persons working in this type of program so the committee is investigating the Episcopal Church format.

Canon Jim Halmarson has been appointed chair of the Stewardship Working Group.

Stewardship is a way of living and giving that includes financial stewardship as well as human stewardship. He will be looking for five to seven people who have a desire to serve and leadership gifts in this area.

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY**

3.10 Council of General Synod meeting November 2008

Diocesan Council reviewed the report from Mr. Chris Wood, Diocesan Representative on Council of General Synod.

MOTION 6

Paus-Jenssen/Hughes

That Diocesan Council receive the report of Council of General Synod as presented.

CARRIED.

3.11 Hospital Chaplain's Report

Council members reviewed the Hospital Chaplain's report submitted by Canon John Davies. The Council affirmed that Hospital Chaplaincy is a very positive ministry for the diocese.

MOTION 7

Hyrchenko/Parson

That Diocesan Council receive the Hospital Chaplain's Report as presented.

CARRIED.

3.12 Diocesan Governance Committee Report – The Rev. Canon Michael Stonhouse

Council members reviewed the report.

MOTION 8

Nicklin/Broad

That Diocesan Council receive the Diocesan Governance Committee Report as presented.

CARRIED.

3.13 St. Paul Anglican Church, Viscount, SK

Bishop Andrews informed council that Ms. Maggie Waters desires to use the St. Paul Anglican Church building as an Aboriginal Healing Centre. Discussion is ongoing with members of the parish with regard to future use of the church.

3.14 Diocesan Outreach Network – Mrs. Margie Gruber

Council members reviewed the Diocesan Outreach Network report.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:15 pm.

Meeting reconvened at 12:50 pm

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY**

MOTION 9

Hughes/Nicklin

That Diocesan Council receive Report Items 3.5- 3.9 as presented.

CARRIED.

**Letter of Agreement Between the Diocese of Saskatoon and the
Philanthropy Department of General Synod**

Diocesan Council reviewed the Letter of Agreement between the Diocese of Saskatoon and the Philanthropy Department of General Synod.

MOTION 10

Halmarson/Paus-Jenssen

That Diocesan Council authorize the Bishop to sign the Letter of Agreement with the Philanthropy Department of General Synod regarding Implementation of Priority #4 of the Strategic Plan, "Turning Hope into Action".

Bishop Andrews

CARRIED.

TAB 4. Decision Items

**3.3 Diocesan Finance Committee Report – Dr. Arne Paus-Jenssen
and**

**4.1 Review of Investment Statements and Portfolio Summary to December 31,
2008**

MOTION 11

Paus-Jenssen/Broad

That Diocesan Council receive the Investment Report to December 31, 2008 as presented.

CARRIED.

**4.2 Review of Financial Statements to December 31, 2008
(unaudited)**

MOTION 12

Paus-Jenssen/Norman

That Diocesan Council receive the unaudited Financial Statements to December 31, 2008 as presented.

CARRIED.

Mr. Ken Bos expressed appreciation to Dr. Arne Paus-Jenssen and the Diocesan Finance Committee for their effort in explaining and communicating information in a clear way to Diocesan Council and to the members of the diocese.

3.3.1 Diocesan Finance Committee Minutes of October 23, October 30, and November 5, 2008

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY**

MOTION 13

Norman/Coolen

That the Diocesan Finance Committee Minutes of October 23, October 30 and November 5, 2008 be received as presented.

CARRIED.

4.3 Request for Diocesan Council support for PWRDF 50th Anniversary 50 Refugee Sponsorship Project – Bishop Tom Morgan, Mrs. Margie Gruber, & Mrs. Mary Ann Assailly

Bishop Andrews welcomed Bishop Tom Morgan, Mrs. Margie Gruber, and Mrs. Mary Ann Assailly to Diocesan Council.

Bishop Morgan presented the PWRDF 50th Anniversary 50 Refugee Families Sponsorship Project which will help 50 refugee families begin new lives in Canada with the help of Anglican Parishes across Canada.

The Anglican Diocese of Saskatoon has a sponsorship agreement with Citizenship and Immigration Canada allowing its members to undertake private sponsorships of refugees. The Diocese has an active refugee committee, currently affiliated with the Diocesan Outreach Network. Diocesan sponsorships are undertaken by parishes and underwritten by the diocese. No money from the diocesan budget has been required for refugee sponsorship, but the government does require the diocese to be a back-up to the sponsorship.

The PWRDF proposes that refugee network members across Canada sponsor 50 refugee families. The diocesan refugee committee would like to undertake at least one refugee sponsorship in the diocese. One parish (or group of parishes) would take the lead and all parishes in the diocese could be involved.

MOTION 14

Norman/Nicklin

That Diocesan Council authorizes Bishop Andrews to sign the sponsorship agreement on behalf of the diocese for a refugee family to be sponsored by the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

Bishop Andrews

CARRIED.

MOTION 15

Norman/Zadorozny

That Diocesan Council authorizes Bishop Andrews to encourage diocesan-wide support for the refugee family sponsored by the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

Bishop Andrews

CARRIED.

4.4 Request for exemption extension – All Saints’ Anglican Church, Lashburn, Parkland Parish

MOTION 16Byrt/Wiebe

That Diocesan Council approve the extension of the exemption from the 12% Fair Share Levy on the Sheehan bequest of \$107, 000 for All Saints' Anglican Church, Lashburn.

**ATTENTION
OF/ACTION BY**

Canon Eufemia

CARRIED.**4.5 Request for exemption – Columbarium at Cathedral Parish of St. John the Evangelist****MOTION 17**Hughes/Coolen

That Diocesan Council approve the Fair Share Levy exemption on \$27,950 for the Columbarium expansion at the Cathedral Parish of St. John the Evangelist.

Canon Eufemia

CARRIED.**4.6 Request for Fair Share Levy Exemption – Bethany Good Shepherd Church, Porcupine Plain**

Dr. Arne Paus-Jenssen suggested that the diocese refund the \$8,000 overpayment to Porcupine Plain Parish as soon as possible. It was noted that this overpayment is a separate issue from requests for exemption of the Fair Share Levy.

MOTION 18Byrt/Zadorozny

That Diocesan Council deny the exemption from the Fair Share Levy for 2008 of the funds up to \$17,641.53 to cover the deficit budget in 2008 for Bethany Good Shepherd Church, Porcupine Plain.

CARRIED.

Diocesan Council requests that a letter be written to Bethany Good Shepherd Church to explain that an individual church cannot make a request for a Fair Share Levy exemption. It has to be done as a parish. Bishop Andrews

3.15 Camp Okema Presentation – Mr. Jerry Keeley

Mr. Jerry Keeley reported that Camp Okema requires an assured income. Funds from the Tractor Trek helped the camp but Mr. Keeley does not want the support from the diocese to end with this. The Camp is sponsored by donations, camp fees, and available grants. Diocesan Council members were asked to discuss with their parishes at the vestry level a 2% increase in their Fair Share Levy for Okema.

MOTION 19Parsons/Barsky

That Diocesan Council members take a request to support Camp Okema back to their parishes.

CARRIED.

4.7 Pastoral Charge/Parish of Porcupine Plain Request for Anglican Foundation of Canada Grant Support **ATTENTION OF/ ACTION BY**

Decision Item 4.7 was withdrawn by the Rev. Sheila Martin because of incomplete information. The Pastoral Parish/Charge of Porcupine Plain will apply for funding for manse and church building repairs at a later date.

4.8 Request for Fair Share Levy Exemption – Parkland Parish

The Bishop is authorized, according to guidelines, to talk to the parish to review the financial details of the parish and to provide help in a supportive manner. The details of this visitation will be reported at the next meeting of Diocesan Council. Bishop Andrews

4.9 Request for Anglican Foundation of Canada Funding by St. Andrew’s Anglican Church, Maidstone

MOTION 20

Byrt/Zadorozny

That Diocesan Council authorizes the application by St. Andrew’s Anglican Church, Maidstone to the Anglican Foundation for financial assistance for repairs to the church and hall as one of the three Anglican Foundation applications for 2009 from the Diocese of Saskatoon. Bishop Andrews

CARRIED.

TAB 5. Discussion Items

5.1 Travel Pooling Fundraiser – The Very Rev. Terry Wiebe

The band, “Country Blend”, will perform a country and western benefit concert at St. John’s Cathedral at 7 pm, Friday, March 13.

The concert is an opportunity to bring the diocese together and to raise funds for travelling expenses for rural ministry. Dean Wiebe distributed tickets for each parish and requested that Diocesan Council members sell tickets for this worthy cause.

TAB 6. Information Items

6.1 Future Meetings

Diocesan Council - June 6, 2009
 Diocesan Finance Committee – May 12, 2009
 Constitutions and Canons – T.B.A.
 Provincial Synod – June 11-14, 2009 (in Calgary)

TAB 7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm with The Grace.